

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	Ashley
Serial Number:	10/621,935
Filing Date:	July 17, 2003
Art Unit:	2132
Examiner:	Dinh, Minh
For:	<b>Method and system for automatic adjustment of entitlements in a distributed data processing environment</b>

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This paper is submitted in conjunction with a request for continued examination.

Reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully requested.

Please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 1, 8 and 15 as set forth below.

Please cancel claims 4, 11 and 18.

A complete claim listing begins on the next page.